

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T GENEVA 07028

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING NO. 213, MAY 8, 1978
(SALT TWO-1727)

REF: SALT TWO-1710

SUMMARY: U.S. ELABORATED ON ITS REVISED PROPOSAL ON NEW
TYPES OF ICBMS AND ANSWERED SOVIET QUESTIONS ON IT. END
SUMMARY.

1. PEREZ REITERATED AND EXPLAINED U.S. NEW TYPES PRO-
POSAL TABLED IN APRIL 26 PLENARY (REFTEL) AND PROVIDED
DETAILED RATIONALE FOR VARIOUS PROVISIONS. HE ALSO EX-
PLAINED TERMS "INITIAL WEIGHT" AND "TOTAL IMPULSE". KARPOV
INTERJECTED SEVERAL QUESTIONS DESIGNED FURTHER TO CLARIFY
U.S. PROPOSAL. HE ASKED, FOR EXAMPLE, HOW U.S. FORMULA-
TION DIFFERED FROM SOVIET TERM "EXTERNALLY OBSERVABLE
DIMENSIONS", WHICH EMPHASIZED VERIFIABILITY. PEREZ RE-
PLIED THAT APPROACHES OF BOTH SIDES SEEMED TO BE BROADLY
SIMILAR BUT THAT U.S. FORMULATION WAS MORE PRECISE.

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2. KARPOV ALSO ASKED HOW "INITIAL WEIGHT" DIFFERED FROM
OR WAS RELATED TO TERMS "THROW-WEIGHT" AND "LAUNCH-WEIGHT".
SCHNEITER EXPLAINED THAT LATTER TERMS WERE ASSOCIATED WITH
MISSILE AS A WHOLE WHILE "INITIAL WEIGHT" CONCERNED ONLY
INDIVIDUAL STAGE OR POST-BOOST VEHICLE OF MISSILE. NOTHING
ABOVE OR BELOW THAT PARTICULAR STAGE WAS INCLUDED IN ITS
"INITIAL WEIGHT". U.S. ALSO STIPULATED THAT INITIAL WEIGHT

OF PBV WOULD NOT INCLUDE WEIGHT OF REENTRY VEHICLES (RV)
OR AN EXIT SHROUD.

3. IN RESPONSE TO KARPOV QUERY AS TO REASON FOR BAN ON RV
WEIGHING LESS THAN WEIGHT OF LIGHTEST RV PREVIOUSLY TESTED,
PEREZ INDICATED THAT THIS WOULD PRECLUDE POSSIBLE FUTURE
AMBIGUOUS SITUATIONS RESULTING FROM FLIGHT-TESTING WHICH
SEEMED TO BE AIMED AT DEVELOPING ICBMS WITH MORE RVs THAN
PREVIOUSLY FLIGHT-TESTED ON THAT MISSILE. KARPOV ASKED
WHETHER THIS APPLIED ONLY TO ICBMS AND PEREZ CONFIRMED
THAT IT DID.

4. PEREZ ALSO NOTED THAT LIMITATIONS ON SIGNIFICANT
DIFFERENCES, IN U.S. PROPOSED AGREED STATEMENT TO ARTICLE
1 OF THE PROTOCOL, WOULD APPLY ONLY TO DIFFERENCES IN
EXCESS OF FIVE PERCENT. HOWEVER, FIVE PERCENT CRITERION
WOULD NOT APPLY TO LIMITATION ON MINIMUM WEIGHT OF RVs, OR
TO OTHER LIMITATIONS IN TREATY, SUCH AS THOSE ON LAUNCH-
WEIGHT AND THROW-WEIGHT OF LIGHT AND HEAVY ICBMS IN
ARTICLES II.7 AND IV.7.

5. KARPOV ASKED WHY DATE OF APRIL 15, 1978 HAD BEEN
CHOSEN AS DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN NEW AND OLD TYPES. PEREZ
NOTED THAT THIS COINCIDED WITH DATE ON WHICH U.S. FIRST
MADE ITS PROPOSAL. U.S. PROPOSAL WOULD PERMIT SIDES TO
CONTINUE PROGRAMS BEGUN BEFORE THAT DATE, BUT FORECLOSE
FLIGHT TESTING AFTER THAT DATE WHICH MIGHT PERMIT ONE SIDE
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TO GAIN ADVANTAGE OVER THE OTHER. KARPOV COMMENTED THAT
U.S. HAD PREVIOUSLY HAD A LATER DATE IN MIND, I.E., DATE
OF SIGNATURE. WAS RATIONALE OF APRIL 15 DATE THAT IT
WOULD PERMIT SOME PROGRAMS TO CONTINUE? PEREZ REPLIED
THAT THIS WAS NOT A MAIN CONSIDERATION. PRINCIPAL CONCERN
HAD BEEN THAT IF DATE NOT SET, SIDES MIGHT TRY TO TEST NEW
TYPE BEFORE SIGNATURE. FAIREST WAY TO SETTLE PROBLEM WAS
TO ESTABLISH DATE, APRIL 15, 1978. KARPOV ASKED WHY SOV-
IET PROPOSED CRITERION OF "INITIATED AFTER 1976" WAS NOT
CHOSEN. PEREZ ASKED IN TURN WHETHER BOTH SENTENCES IN
THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR AGREED STATEMENT WERE MEANT TO
REFER TO 1976 DATE, AS THIS NOT CLEAR FROM TEXT. KARPOV
INDICATED THAT 1976 DATE APPLIED TO BOTH SENTENCES, WHICH
FOLLOWED FROM SOVIET PROPOSAL, WHICH CONSTITUTED A WHOLE.

6. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MAY 11. EARLE

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